

REMARKS

1. INTRODUCTION

Claims 1-10 and 17-18 have been canceled, claims 11, 13-16 and 19-20 have been amended and new claims 21-23 have been added. Accordingly, claims 11-16 and 19-23 are presently pending in this application. Reexamination and reconsideration is hereby respectfully requested.

2. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Office Action set forth several informalities with respect to the disclosure, and required appropriate correction. These corrections have been made.

In addition, Applicant has amended the paragraph in the Specification on page 3, starting at line 31 with carryover onto page 4, through line 13, to recite a first well 34₁ and a second well 34₂, among other things. No new matter has been added inasmuch as this disclosure was already present in the application as originally filed in near identical form in originally presented claim 16 among other places. Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to the disclosure be reconsidered and withdrawn.

3. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 11-13 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Publication No. 62-2082. In addition, claims 1-6, 11-12 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Douglass et al. Applicant respectfully overcomes the rejections.

Presently pending independent claims 11 and 16 respectively recite, in-part, that “said supply port being concentric with said longitudinal axis” and “said first port being concentric with said longitudinal axis.”. None of the two-ball embodiments shown in Japanese Publication No. 62-2082 show a supply port (or a first port) that is concentric with the longitudinal axis of the main body. At most, as best understood, Japanese Publication No. 62-2082 disclose embodiments where inlet ports are radially offset from, not concentric with, the main longitudinal axis.

Independent claim 11 presently recites, in-part, “said housing further including a second spring proximate said supply port disposed between said housing and said second ball, said second spring having a preload force urging said second ball toward said second

valve seat.” Independent claim 16 includes the recitation of “said module further including a second spring proximate said first port between said housing means and said second ball means and having a preload force urging said second ball means toward said second valve seat means.” While Douglass et al. (U.S. 6,644,350), as best understood, appears to have a supply port or inlet that is concentric with the main longitudinal axis, Douglass does not include a spring located in the housing that urges an inlet ball with a preload force, as now claimed. Accordingly, neither JP 62-2082 nor U.S. 6,644,350 to Douglass et al. teach each and every element and limitation of independent claims 11 and 16. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections based on 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claims 12-15 depend from base claim 11, and claims 19 and 20 depend from base claim 16. Accordingly, such dependent claims include all of the limitations of their respective base claims. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons set forth above in connection with independent claims 11 and 16, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

4. CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 6-8, 10, 13, 15 and 18-20 stand further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant appreciates the detailed Office Action pointing out various items for correction. Applicant respectfully overcomes these objections appropriate amendment. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

5. NEW CLAIMS 21-23

Applicant has presented new claims 21-23 to more fully and accurately embrace the present invention. It is submitted that these new claims 21-23 define patentable subject matter over the art of record.

6. AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 has been amended to include specific reference numerals to a first well 34₁, and a second well 34₂ recited in the claims as originally filed. Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment merely conforms the drawing to the claims as originally filed, and accordingly, no new matter has been entered.

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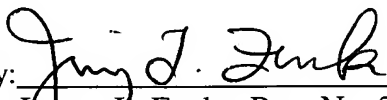
7. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all presently pending claims are now believed to be in a condition for allowance. Early notice of the same is hereby respectfully requested.

You are hereby authorized to charge any fees due for filing this Amendment to Delphi Technologies, Inc. Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 1. This sheet, which includes Figures 1-3, replaces the original sheet including Figures 1-3. In Figure 1, an arrowhead has been added to the previously included reference numeral 34, while new reference numerals 34₁ and 34₂ (along with corresponding lead lines) has been added to Figure 1.